

Showers and Cooler
Tonight.

The Washington Times

LAST EDITION

NUMBER 6334.

WASHINGTON, MONDAY EVENING, MAY 10, 1909.

PRICE ONE CENT.

\$20,000 BOND FIXED FOR LAWYER DAVIS, ARRAIGNED TODAY

Alleged Swindler Bound
Over to Grand Jury by
Police Court.

BAIL FOR BROTHER
IS PLACED AT \$5,000

Petition Filed by Attorneys of
Creditors Asks Receiver for
Loan Company.

John C. Davis and Martin T. Davis, the Washington attorney and his brother, charged with fraud in connection with the operations of the Potomac Building and Loan Company, in the Police Court today were held in \$20,000 and \$5,000 bonds for the grand jury. The larger amount was fixed for Attorney Davis because of the charges of embezzlement and conspiracy to defraud against him. The charge of conspiracy was the only one against his brother, Martin T. Davis, secretary and general manager of the company, and his bond was therefore placed at \$5,000. Shortly after noon Dr. William W. Stewart, of Sixth and D streets northwest, furnished bonds in the required sum for the release of Martin T. Davis. No bondman appearing for John C. Davis, he was taken to the District Jail.

While the Police Court proceedings were going on, Walter A. Johnson and W. Mosby Williams, attorneys for creditors of the concern, were filing in the Supreme Court a petition for a receiver for the Potomac Building and Loan Company.

Examines Victims.
At the same time Assistant District Attorney Proctor was examining a score of men and women who had trusted various sums to the Daveses for investment, and who are now anxious to learn what has become of their money. To a Times reporter, Mr. Proctor stated that it was unlikely it would be possible to present any of the evidence to the grand jury today.

"These people have come here voluntarily," he said, "and we are going over the case with the object of getting it into shape for presentation to the grand jury as soon as possible."
Attorney Williams also stated to the reporter that he has good reason to believe that, although they have not yet been brought to light, the Daveses have a considerable sum in money or securities in their hands. He said that in conversations that he had as late as Thursday with both brothers that caused him to have this belief.

Made Promises.
At noon of last Thursday, said Mr. Williams, he saw Martin T. Davis, secretary of the company, and was assured by him that the repeated demand made for the payment of certificates of the company held by his clients, would shortly be complied with.
He informed me that the company had ample assets in a safety deposit box in the old Ohio Savings Bank building, at Twelfth and G streets," said Mr. Williams.

Two hours later I ran into John C. Davis, whom I had been trying unsuccessfully to reach for some time. I informed him what I had learned from his brother about the safe deposit box, and told him I wanted prompt payment of the certificates in question.

Was Misunderstood.
"One hour later I was called up on the telephone by Martin T. Davis, who volunteered the information that I had misunderstood him; that he had said the company used to have a safe deposit box in the building at Twelfth and G streets. But I am sure I did not misunderstand him."

In the petition for a receiver filed today are two exhibits, one being a copy of a letter to Martin T. Davis as secretary of the Potomac Building and Loan Company, dated April 24, requesting payment of certain certificates aggregating \$100,000. The exhibit is a clipping from The Washington Times of Saturday, May 8, 1909, giving an account of the arrest of the two brothers and the latest developments in the case.

Petitioners' Claim.
The petitioners claim that the Potomac Building and Loan Association has a number of securities of value which they believe are in the possession of M. T. Davis, its secretary and general manager, and in safe deposit boxes, and that since the office of the association and the general manager are in the custody of the police, there is no suitable person to obtain these assets. For this reason the court is asked to appoint a receiver to take possession of what is claimed to be the assets of the company, and to preserve, protect, and dispose of them under the direction and control of the courts.

Alice B. Duncan, one of the com-

(Continued on Third Page.)

WEATHER REPORT.

Since Saturday a disturbance has advanced from Kansas to the upper Ohio valley and lower Lake region, attended in areas by thunderstorms, heavy rain and high winds, and followed by a cleared fall in temperature that has carried the frost line to northwestern Arkansas.

During the next twenty-four hours the eastern disturbance will advance over the Atlantic coast line, attended by showers and wind, and followed by a marked fall in temperature. Light frost is likely to occur tonight in the east Gulf and middle and south Atlantic States and the upper Ohio valley.

FORECAST FOR THE DISTRICT.
Showers, followed by fair tonight; much cooler tonight, Tuesday fair; winds shifting to brisk northwesterly.

TEMPERATURE.

8 a. m. 59
9 a. m. 60
10 a. m. 61
11 a. m. 62
12 m. 63
1 p. m. 64
2 p. m. 65

SUN TABLE.

Sun rises. 4:51
Sun sets. 7:01

TIDE TABLE.

Today—High tide, 11:30 a. m. Low tide, 5:15 a. m. and 6:20 p. m.

Tomorrow—High tide, 12:07 p. m. and 12:23 p. m. Low tide, 6:13 a. m. and 7:13 p. m.

BRIT ABRAHAM SESSION IS SCENE OF GREAT UPPOUR

Two Factions Engage in
Physical Encounter to
Possess the Floor.

MEN AND WOMEN
TAKE PART IN ROW

All the Trouble Is Caused by Question
of Financial Management.

A babel of languages, shouted from the throats of 500 delegates, marked the opening of this morning's session of the Independent Order of British Abraham at the new Masonic Temple. Scenes of the wildest disorder prevailed at the opening of the session and interrupted the proceedings. The culmination came after a speech by Jacob Schoen, of New York, grand secretary of the order, who pleaded guilty of negligence which he declared was to some extent responsible for the \$40,000 deficit that now faces the organization.

Secretary Schoen Explains.
Schoen explained that, as secretary, he had for years deposited the funds of the order. Not until he learned that the treasurer was in bad straits, he said, did he suspect that the finances of the institution were not safe. He explained at length the system of bookkeeping used and declared the criticisms aimed at the administration of finances were well founded. He concluded with a peroration that brought tears to the eyes of many of his supporters and that seemingly touched his opponents.

In marked contrast to the confusion that prevailed before and after he spoke, deathlike silence prevailed while he was on the platform. Friend and enemy alike leaned forward to catch every word; the galleries were stifled. "I borrowed from friends to replace the money," he said. "I dared to hope we could weather the danger without bringing it before you. We regard your contributions as a sacred trust; it was not because we were dishonest or because we did not hold your interests at heart that we seemed to be negligent. It was because of the confidence we placed in men who have served you long and well. I throw myself on your mercy. May I ask that we stand together on the same ship. If we weather—"

(Continued on Ninth Page.)

CITIZENS DISCUSS TAFT FURTHER

Washington Folk Pleased
at Interest Shown by
the President.

INTERVIEWS SHOW
TREND OF OPINION

Representative Men of the Capital
Express Their Opinions on
Government.

Varying views as to how the best results might be obtained, but general felicitation that President Taft had committed himself to a deep interest in the government affairs of the District prevailed among representative citizens of Washington, who are still discussing the recent business men's banquet to the President, today.

Although there is an occasional note of regret that the President could not at this time forecast just what change, if any, he would recommend to Congress regarding the form of the government of Washington, the average citizen believes that the President's speech augurs a new era for Washington. It is interpreted to mean that the President, General Government, while still holding the guiding hand over District destinies, is committed by the attitude of the President, to a greater interest in local affairs and the demands of the people.

With such an interest exhibited, say some of the representative men of Washington, the demand for suffrage, in any form, will become less insistent and the entire Capital will enter into an unprecedented growth of confidence and prosperity.

There are still many, however, despite Mr. Taft's disapproval of the plan, who will continue to advocate some representation in Congress. Among those who expressed various views today were:

Thomas W. Smith.
After hearing the President's speech, I am convinced that he is satisfied with the progress of affairs that has been made under the commission plan of government. He takes the strict constitutionality of the plan, and the political status of the District of Columbia, and I don't think he will be in favor in any event of amending the constitution in order to be able to change that status. I am sorry the President did not outline his views more clearly with respect to the plan. But I am sure every person who heard him was convinced of his great sincerity to pursue the course which will result in the greatest benefit to the District and that he desires the co-operation of all the citizens of the District.

(Continued on Sixth Page.)

WIVES SHOWN NO MERCY WHEN SENTENCE TODAY

Man Must Spend Life in
Solitary Confinement
in Prison.

WOMAN IS GIVEN
TWENTY-FIVE YEARS

Sheriff Finds Razor in Necktie
and Evidences of Morphine
Poisoning.

MERCER, Pa., May 10.—The heaviest penalties that the law allows were given James H. Boyle and his wife, Helen, this morning for stealing Billy Whittles.

Boyle was sentenced to prison for life for the kidnapping charge. Mrs. Boyle was sentenced to twenty-five years' imprisonment for aiding and abetting the kidnapping.

Although the woman is destitute, Judge Williams showed his desire to rebuke the crime to the full extent of the law by imposing upon her the fine of \$500 and the costs of the prosecution, which are allowed under the statute.

Long before the time set for the opening of court this morning, the court room was filled. Boyle entered the court room at 9:30 in the custody of Sheriff Chess, and took his place at the table of his counsel. The man was cool and collected. Mrs. Boyle was brought to the court house with her husband, and entered the court room a few minutes later.

Boyle Faces Judge.

James H. Boyle was directed to stand for sentence for the kidnapping of Willie Whittle, when former Judge S. H. Miller made a plea for leniency for the prisoner, basing his argument on the grounds that Boyle had in no manner ill-treated or threatened the boy, but, upon the other hand, the testimony of Willie Whittle and his letters to his parents indicated that he had been treated kindly by both Boyle and his wife.

In asking clemency for Mrs. Boyle Judge Miller compared her position as one convicted of murder in the second degree, and claimed that the case had no element which would put it in the same class as murder in the second degree. Judge Miller said that he had been approached and told that he should have defended the Boyles. He said he hoped that his tongue might

(Continued on Second Page.)

TAFT WOULD CUT VOTERS' POWER IN PORTO RICO

TAFT'S VIEWS
ON PORTO RICO

Too great power has been vested
in the house of delegates.

I recommend . . . that when
the assembly refuses to make appropriations sums equal to those of previous years shall be available.

Porto Rico has been the favored daughter of the United States. There is complete free trade between Porto Rico and the United States.

The loss (from free trade) to the United States is \$12,500,000 a year.

Porto Rican leaders have forgotten the generosity of the United States.

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President, in Message to
Congress, Urges Some
Change in Foraker Act.

PLAYS ASSEMBLY
FOR DERELICTIONS

Asserts House of Delegates Erred
in Not Passing Current Ap-
propriation Bills.

In a vigorous message sent to Congress today, President Taft expressed the opinion that the United States has gone too far in the extension of the powers of self-government to the people of Porto Rico, and recommends certain modifications in the so-called Foraker act, which provides for the administration of affairs in that island.

He censured unparliamentary action of the house of delegates of the island in refusing to pass the appropriation bills for the coming fiscal year, and suggests the advisability of taking from this lower body of the Porto Rican Assembly the power thus to hamper the government of the island.

The message says:
To the Senate and House of Representatives:

An emergency has arisen in Porto Rico which makes it necessary for me to invite the attention of the Congress to the affairs of that island, and to recommend legislation at the present extra session amending the act under which the island is governed.

The regular session of the Legislative Assembly of Porto Rico adjourned March 11, last, without passing the usual appropriation bills. A special session of the Assembly was at once convened by the governor, but after three days, on March 15, it again adjourned without making the appropriations. The leaves the island government without provision for its support after March 15, next. The situation presented is, therefore, of unusual gravity.

The present government of Porto Rico was established by what is known as the Foraker act. Under that act the chief executive is a governor appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate. A secretary, attorney general, treasurer, auditor, commissioner of the interior, and commissioner of education, together with five other appointees of the President, constitute the executive council. The executive council must have in its composition at least five native Porto Ricans. The legislative power is vested in the Legislative Assembly, which has two coordinate branches. The first of these is the executive council just described, and the second is the house of delegates, a popularly elected body with members elected by the qualified electors of the seven districts into which the island is divided.

Statute Directs.
The statute directing how the expenses of government are to be provided leaves some doubt whether this function is not committed solely to the executive council, but in practice the legislative assembly has made appropriations for all the expenses other than for salaries fixed by Congress, and it is too late to reverse the ground.

Ever since the institution of the present Assembly, the house of delegates has uniformly held up the appropriation bills until the last minute of the regular session, and has sought to use the power to do so as a means of compelling the concurrence of the executive council in legislation which the house desired.

In the last regular Legislative Assembly in the house of delegates passed a bill dividing the island into several counties, and providing county governments; a bill for the establishment of an agricultural bank; a bill providing that vacancies in the offices of mayors and councilmen be filled by the judges of municipal districts instead of by the governor, and a bill putting in the control of the largest taxpayers in each municipal district the selection of a great part of the assessors of property.

Council Declines.
The executive council declined to concur in these bills; it objected to the agricultural bank bill on the ground that the revenues of the island were not sufficient to carry out the plan proposed, and to the manual training school bill because in plain violation of the Foraker act, it objected to the change in the law concerning the appraisal of property on the ground that the law was intended to put too much power in respect of the appraisal of property for taxation in the hands of those having the most property to tax. The chief issue was a bill making a change in the law concerning the election of judges in municipalities.

Under previous legislation there are twenty-six municipal judges who are elected to office. By this bill it was proposed to increase the elective judges from twenty-six to sixty-six in number, and at the same time to abolish the justices of the peace. The change in the law concerning the appraisal of property on the ground that the law was intended to put too much power in respect of the appraisal of property for taxation in the hands of those having the most property to tax. The chief issue was a bill making a change in the law concerning the election of judges in municipalities. Under previous legislation there are twenty-six municipal judges who are elected to office. By this bill it was proposed to increase the elective judges from twenty-six to sixty-six in number, and at the same time to abolish the justices of the peace. The change in the law concerning the appraisal of property on the ground that the law was intended to put too much power in respect of the appraisal of property for taxation in the hands of those having the most property to tax. The chief issue was a bill making a change in the law concerning the election of judges in municipalities.

Facts Are Cited.
The facts recited demonstrate the willingness of the representatives of the people in the house of delegates to subvert the government in order to secure the passage of certain legislation. The question, whether the proposed legislation should be enacted into law was left by the fundamental act to the joint action of the executive council and the house of delegates at the legislative assembly. The house of delegates proposes itself to secure this legislation without re-

SENATE ONLY MOVED
BY 90 IN THE SHADE

Speaker Cannon Takes Hot Shot
at Upper Branch for
Delay.

"The only thing that can move and carry the previous question in the Senate is 90 to 100 in the shade."

"This was the joint handed to the upper branch this morning by Speaker Cannon, who called at the White House."

He was asked when he thought Congress would pass the tariff bill and adjourn.

"Tell me when the Senate will adjourn, and I will give you an intelligent guess on the matter," he said.

"They can work very fast over there when they feel like it, but you never can tell when they will feel like it."

"The only thing that can move and carry the previous question in the Senate is 90 to 100 in the shade. That will move them."

"Previous question" has been moved and voted the next thing in order is a vote on the bill.

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